THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The average tariff for sale of electricity supplied to the consumers by the State Electricity Boards worked out to 120.71 paise/kwh during 1993-94.

(b) Tariffs for sale of electricity to the consumers are fixed by the State Electricity Boards, with the approval of the State Government concerned, taking into account the pooled cost of generation (including the cost of purchase of power) and supply. The tariff for sale of power by the private companies now setting up power plants will be governed by the provisions contained in the Tariff Notification issued by the Central Government on 31.3.1992, as amended from time to time, and will differ from plant to plant depending upon the capital cost, financing pattern, type and source of fuel etc.

(c) The need and extent of subsidy payable to the different categories of consumers is decided by the State Electricity Boards in consultation with the State Governments concerned, taking into account the various socio-economic compulsions, among other things.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of (c) above.

Joint sampling of coal at power plants

2029. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the steps taken by Government to ensure joint sampling of coal at power plants, both in Central and State Sectors;

(b) whether any assessment has been made on the overall impact of poor quality of coal on the Plant Load Factor;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether his Ministry has taken up the issue of installing washeries in Coal India to reduce ash contents at coal pi -heads; and

(e) if not, what steps are being taken by Government to reduce the ash burden on the power plants both from handling as well environmental point of view?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Presently, sampling of coal is being done at loading end by an Organisation under the Coal Controller. The Utilities and Power Ministry have taken up with Ministry of Coal that Joint sampling at Power Station end is necessary.

(b) and (c) it is estimated that if coal as per design grade are supplied to the power stations which are now receiving inferior grade coal than their design grade, their PLF would improve. As per coal quality data received from power stations, 19 power stations received coal lower than their design grade during 1993-94.

(d) and (e) As a principle installation of washeries at coal mines for supply of washed coal to thermal power stationed at longer distance has been agreed but actual installation will depend on availability of resources.

Power generation in NTPC unit at Farakka

2030. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for failure of 4th unit of NTPC at Farakka in January, 1994;

(b) by when the unit is likely to be put into operation;

(c) what is the estimated cost overrun;

(d) whether commercial power generation has started in the 5th unit of NTPC at Farakka;

(e) if so, what is the maximum load at which it has been run so far; and

(f) if not, what are the reasons for delay in commencement of commercial production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) Unit IV of the Farakka Super Thermal Power Project of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) failed because of collapse of pass D of Electro-Static Precipitators (ESPs). Strengthening of structure of A, B, C passes is in progress. Detailed programme for supply, erection and commissioning of D pass is yet to be finalised by the supplier. Coal firing of the unit is expected by December, 1994 and full load operation is expected by October, 1995.

(c) Farakka Stage II (Unit IV & V) was sanctioned in Sept. 1984 at an estimated cost of Rs. 864.48 crores. The lastest estimated cost of the project is about Rs. 2114.20 crores. The estimated cost over run is thus about Rs. 1249.72 crores.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) During synchronisation, the unit achieved maximum load of 120 MW on 7-3-1994.

(f) In view of the collapse of the ESP of Unit IV, it was considered prudent to await the outcome of the investigations of the Enquiry Committee and in line with the recommendations of the Committee, steps have been taken for strengthening the ESP.s Unit V also. The trial operation of the unit is expected by December, 1994.

लिग्नाइट पर आधारित विद्युत स्टेशनों के लिए पोलैंड और गुजरात सरकार के मध्य समझौता

2031. श्रीमती उर्मिला चिमनभाई पटेल :

क्या विद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या गुजरात सरकार ने पोलैण्ड के सहयोग से कच्छ और भावनगर में लिग्नाइट पर आधारित विद्युत केन्द्र स्थापित करने का समझौता किया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इन क्षेत्रों में विद्युत केन्द्रों के निर्माण का कार्य आरंभ हो गया है;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके मुख्य कारण क्या हैं; और

(घ) इन योजनाओं के निर्माण का कार्य कब से आरम्भ होने की संभावना है ?

विद्युत मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० वी० रंगैया नायडू) : (क) से (छ) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी ।

Environmental action plan of NTPC

2032. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NTPC with the concurrence of the World Bank has embarked on environmental action plan around its power plants in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof and how much assistance the World Bank has granted for the said task;

(c) what are NTPC's plans to ensure Zero discharge of industrial of effluents; and

(d) by when the environmental plan is likely to be implemented in all the NTPC power stations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) The Environmental Action Plan of NTPC for its power plants in various States, inter-alia, includes :—

(i) Upgradation of Electrostatic precipitators wherever necessary.

(ii) Implementation of comprehensive effluent discharge schemes.